

09/14/00
jc916 U.S. PRO

09-15-00

A

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

Approved for use through 09/30/2000 OMB 0651 0032
Patent and Trademark Office U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL <small>(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b))</small>	Attorney Docket No	D-2340
	First Inventor or Application Identifier	Ollis
	Title	Provisioning of Locally-Generated Prompts from a Central Source
	Express Mail Label No	EF130453055 US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS <small>See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents</small>	ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231
---	--

<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> * Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) (Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)</p> <p>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification [Total Pages 10] (Preferred arrangement set forth below)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Descriptive title of the invention- Cross References to Related Applications- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D- Reference to Microfiche Appendix- Background of the Invention- Brief Summary of the Invention- Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)- Detailed Description- Claim(s)- Abstract of the Disclosure <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawings(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 4]</p> <p>4. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages 1]</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy)</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 16 completed)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).</p> <p>NOTE FOR ITEMS 1 & 13: IN ORDER TO BE ENTITLED TO PAY SMALL ENTITY FEES, A SMALL ENTITY STATEMENT IS REQUIRED (37 C.F.R. § 1.27), EXCEPT IF ONE FILED IN A PRIOR APPLICATION IS RELIED UPON (37 C.F.R. § 1.28).</p>	<p>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)</p> <p>6. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copy</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identity of above copies</p> <p>ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS</p> <p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney</p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable)</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations</p> <p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment</p> <p>12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> * Small Entity Statement(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Statement filed in prior application (PTO/SB/09-12) <input type="checkbox"/> Status still proper and desired</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)</p> <p>15. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Express mail Certificate of Mailing</p>
--	--

16. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No. _____

Prior application information Examiner _____ Group / Art Unit _____

For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The Incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

17. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

☐ Customer Number or Bar Code Label (Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here) or ☐ Correspondence address below

Name	Wendy W. Koba, Esq.				
Address	PO Box 556				
City	Springtown	State	PA	Zip Code	18081
Country	United States of America	Telephone	610-346-7112	Fax	610-346-8189

Name (Print/Type)	Wendy W. Koba, Esq.	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	30509
Signature	Wendy W. Koba	Date	9/14/00

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.

FEE TRANSMITTAL

for FY 2000

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.
Small Entity payments must be supported by a small entity statement,
otherwise large entity fees must be paid. See Forms PTO/SB/09-12.
See 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.27 and 1.28

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)**730.00**

Complete if Known

Application Number _____
Filing Date _____
First Named Inventor **Ollis**
Examiner Name _____
Group / Art Unit _____
Attorney Docket No. **D-2340**

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)

1. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:

Deposit Account Number _____

Deposit Account Name _____

☐ Charge Any Additional Fee Required
Under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17

2. ☒ Payment Enclosed:
☒ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Other

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101 690	201 345	Utility filing fee	690.00
106 310	206 155	Design filing fee	
107 480	207 240	Plant filing fee	
108 690	208 345	Reissue filing fee	
114 150	214 75	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)**690.00**

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
12	-20** = 0	X 0	= 0
Independent Claims	2 - 3** = 0	X 0	= 0
Multiple Dependent			

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see below

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
103 18	203 9	Claims in excess of 20
102 78	202 39	Independent claims in excess of 3
104 260	204 130	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109 78	209 39	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
110 18	210 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)**0**

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105 130	205 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
127 50	227 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.	
139 130	139 130	Non-English specification	
147 2,520	147 2,520	For filing a request for reexamination	
112 920*	112 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113 1,840*	113 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115 110	215 55	Extension for reply within first month	
116 380	216 190	Extension for reply within second month	
117 870	217 435	Extension for reply within third month	
118 1,360	218 680	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128 1,850	228 925	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119 300	219 150	Notice of Appeal	
120 300	220 150	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121 260	221 130	Request for oral hearing	
138 1,510	138 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140 110	240 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141 1,210	241 605	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142 1,210	242 605	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143 430	243 215	Design issue fee	
144 580	244 290	Plant issue fee	
122 130	122 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123 50	123 50	Petitions related to provisional applications	
126 240	126 240	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581 40	581 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	40.00
146 690	246 345	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149 690	249 345	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	

Other fee (specify) _____

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)**40.00**

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	Wendy W. Koba	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	30509	Telephone	610-346-7112
Signature	<i>Wendy W. Koba</i>	Date			

WARNING:

Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

EXPRESS MAIL
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Patent Application for:

Applicants: Jeffrey D. Ollis

Atty No: D 2340

Title: Provisioning of Locally-Generated Prompts
from a Central Source

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States
Postal Service with sufficient postage as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed
to

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

On 9/14/00

EXPRESS MAIL TRACKING NO. EF130453055 US

Type or Print name of person signing this certificate: Wendy W. Koba, Esq.

Signature: Wendy W. Koba

00664739.09400
00460 6229960

PROVISIONING OF LOCALLY-GENERATED PROMPTS FROM A CENTRAL SOURCE

Cross-Reference to Related Application

5 This application claims the priority of Provisional Application Serial No. 60/156,248, filed September 27, 1999.

Technical Field

10 The present invention relates to the utilization of prompts and announcements (such as “voice prompts”, “text prompts”, or call-related announcements) in interactive telephone services and, more particularly, to the provisioning of such prompts in an HFC network environment.

Background of the Invention

15 New telephony systems are being developed in which equipment for the system is distributed throughout the network rather than being at one central location. As an example, Hybrid Fiber Coax (HFC) networks can support telephony services and typically do so through the deployment of equipment at or near the subscriber site. The HFC network equipment that is deployed at or near the home, often referred to as a “communications gateway”, allows
20 telephone service to be provided over the cable TV network, where the communications gateway interacts with a traditional telephone line at the home to provide conventional telecommunications service. In particular, the communications gateway converts the telephone signals originating in the home to a cable compatible signal which is then transported across the cable network and into a traditional circuit switched or Internet telephony based telephone
25 network. In the development of these cable based telephony systems, it is clear that voice prompt technology will be used to support services including voicemail, telephony services configuration, and a host of other features.

 As is well-known in the art, voice prompts are frequently used to allow a user to interact with a telephone-based system, including voicemail systems, ordering systems, billing
30 systems and a number of other financial, service based, or informational services. The voicemail prompts are typically coupled with menu systems which allow the user to navigate through the service and select options, retrieve information, and place orders. Responses to the

menus are entered using the telephone keypad or are received through a voice recognition system.

The use of voice prompts has allowed a multitude of interactive telephone services to be provided to consumers. Voice prompts can also be utilized to allow a user to configure services and equipment. As an example, voice mailbox features including outgoing messages can be configured using voice prompts and configuration menus.

In the HFC network environment, voice prompt technology will allow the communications gateway to be controlled by the user and provide a number of services including voicemail. The telephone can be used as the basic input device, and users will use the telephone keypad to, among other things, access menus and program the communications gateway. Use of voice prompt technology removes the need for a display on the telephone to permit interactivity with the user. Nevertheless, voice prompt technology will require the use of voice prompt files which will play menus, options and provide configuration information to the user.

Distributed telecommunications systems allow many functions to be offloaded from centralized equipment (e.g. servers) to client side devices. For prompt technology, this allows voice and text prompt files to be stored at the subscriber side, rather than at the server side. This requires that the appropriate prompt files be delivered to the client side equipment. In addition to the problem of locating the appropriate files, difficulties can arise with respect to insuring that the files are updated. For this reason, a method and apparatus of providing locally generated voice prompts from a central source is required. This method should support retrieval and updating of files located on communications gateways which provide telecommunications services over HFC plants.

Summary of the Invention

In the present invention, prompt/announcement files (i.e., voice files, text files, video, multimedia, etc.) can be located on a central file server and acquired as needed via a common protocol, which can include protocol such as File Transfer Protocol (FTP) or Trivial File Transfer Protocol (TFTP). The files can be loaded individually as needed, as a group, or sequentially in terms of the files that are required by the user.

One of the features of the present invention is that a telephony device, which in the case of an HFC plant is a communications gateway, can access the files from a centralized server.

The communications gateway has adequate information to locate the server and in addition has information about the user characteristics such that the appropriate files can be downloaded.

As an example, a user speaking a particular language will have files downloaded to the communications gateway or other telephony or set top device that contains voice/text prompt and announcement files in their native tongue. In this way, the files used by a particular telephony device, communications gateway or set top are customized as needed.

In one embodiment, the downloaded files are voice prompts and/or announcements, which can then be played back through a telephone. The user uses the telephone keypad to navigate through the menus and interact with the system. In another embodiment, the prompts and/or announcements may comprise text files which are downloaded to a television set top. Advantageously, the communications gateway is capable of recognizing the different types of files (e.g., voice or text) and directing the appropriate signal to the appropriate receiving device.

In the present invention, the client side is able to retrieve and store a subset of the files available on the server. User characteristics including language and service configuration can be used to determine the appropriate set of files to be delivered.

These and other features and objects of the invention will be more fully understood from the following detailed description of the preferred embodiments which should be read in light of the accompanying drawings.

Brief Description of the Drawings

The accompanying drawings, which are incorporated in and form a part of the specification, illustrate the embodiments of the present invention and, together with the description serve to explain the principles of the invention.

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 illustrates a portion of a telecommunications network capable of implementing the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a use case diagram of the present invention;

FIG. 3 is a flowchart representing the downloading of voice and text prompt files;

FIG. 4 is a class diagram of the system of the present invention.

Detailed Description

In describing a preferred embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawings, specific terminology will be used for the sake of clarity. However, the invention is not intended to be limited to the specific terms so selected, and it is to be understood that each specific term includes all technical equivalents which operate in a similar manner to accomplish a similar purpose. Moreover, the following descriptions often time refer to “prompts” (defined as messages delivered to a user which require a reply), such as “*for the service department, press 1*”. It is to be understood that the principles of the present invention are equally applicable to situations involving “announcements”, such as “*you have 5 new messages*”, which are as common as prompts in many telecommunications applications.

FIG. 1 illustrates, in simplified form, a portion of a communication network 10 implementing the provisioning of locally-generated prompt and announcement files in accordance with the present invention. As shown, network 10 includes a residence 12 containing a telephone 14, a television 16 and television set-top box 18. Television set-top box 18 is connected through coaxial wiring 20 (including a splitter 22) to a communications gateway 24 and receives traditional cable television signals over coaxial wiring 26 from an access network 28. In the embodiment illustrated in FIG. 1, access network 28 comprises a hybrid fiber coaxial network which receives signals from a cable television head end 30, with coaxial cable wiring 32 connecting access network 28 to cable television head end 30. In an alternative embodiment, the access network may comprise a data network, local telephone access network, or any other type of network capable of providing conventional telephone signals to the home.

Telephone 14 can be a traditional telephone with touch-tone type keypad, or can be another telephony device. In the embodiment of FIG. 1, telephone 14 is connected to communications gateway 24 via twisted wire pairs 34 and through an RJ-11 jack (not shown) in communications gateway 24. In an alternative embodiment, other communications means including coaxial cable or in-home wireless connections may be used to connect the telephone to the communications gateway. Television 16 and set-top box 18 are connected via coaxial cable 20 to splitter 22 and in one embodiment, cable television signals are passed directly through communications gateway 24 without processing. In another embodiment, communications gateway 24 intercepts all signals and processes telephone signals as well as television signals, then subsequently supplies the signals to the appropriate device.

FIG. 1 also illustrates a server 34 connected through a private or public network 36 to cable television head end 30. Server 34 contains, for example, voice prompt and/or announcement files and text prompt and/or announcement files. In accordance with the teachings of the present invention, any one (or more) of these files can be selected and then transferred across network 36 to head end 30 and subsequently downloaded to communications gateway 24. In one embodiment, server 34 is located in a remote site and communications gateway 24 accesses files through access network 28 and a public data network, such as the Internet. In another embodiment, network 36 may comprise a private network operated by a service provider. A variety of transport protocols can be used to support communications across the network, including TCP/IP, which is well known to those skilled in the art.

FIG. 2 illustrates a use case diagram 40, containing the various functions which are used in a system formed in accordance with the present invention. In particular, a telephone keypad entry function 42 allows a user 44 to input commands and make selections through the telephone keypad. A voice prompt function 46 plays back voice prompts (and/or announcements) and is coupled with keypad entry function 42 to guide user 44 through the menu and the information system. In a similar manner, computer keyboard entry function 48 allows user 44 to input commands and make selections from among various text prompts/announcements (as well as video or audio, or multimedia files) through the keyboard. Text prompt/announcement file function 50, video prompt/announcement file function 52 and multimedia prompt/announcement file 54 are all coupled to computer keyboard entry function 48. A user characterization function 56 provides the basis for characterizing user 44 and storing that information particular to user 44. User characterizations can include, among other things, the language, address, services and other parameters which are relevant to the various prompts that are required by the user.

File retrieval function 58 accesses prompt/announcement files 46, 50, 52, 54 from centralized server 34 for appropriate downloading and storage. File update function 60 is capable of accessing any of the files when it is required that one or more of them be updated due to a change in the user characterization or because a file itself has changed.

Referring to FIG. 3, a flow chart is provided illustrating the download and use of the prompt/announcement files in accordance with the present invention. In the first step (block 70), the user characteristics are determined either through input by the user or from service records, or through another mechanism. As mentioned above, the user characteristics describe

certain parameters of the user which are used in selecting and downloading the required files. The type of user entry device is next determined (block 72), since different types of prompts/announcements are used with different devices. A decision is then made determining if the input device is a telephone keypad (block 74). If so, then the program next requests the

5 download of voice prompt/announcement files from the centralized server (block 76). A test is then run to determine if new voice prompts/announcements are required (block 78). This test may be based on the user service configuration or on the use of certain features in the communications gateway. If new voice files are required, the additional files are downloaded (looping back to block 76), otherwise, the system goes into a standby mode in which it can

10 then play voice prompts/announcements on demand (block 80). Going back to block 74, if the decision is that the entry device is not a telephone keypad (i.e., the input device is a computer keyboard), the program requests download of computer-compatible prompt/announcement files (i.e., text prompt files, video prompt files, multimedia prompt files, etc.). As with the voice prompt files, a test is then run to determine if new prompt files are required (block 84).

15 If so, the program loops back to block 82 and proceeds to download new prompt files from the server. If not, the system goes into standby mode (block 80) and is ready to play the prompts when requested. An end step (block 86) follows the playing of any prompt, although the system remains in a status in which it can play any voice prompt as required.

FIG. 4 illustrates a class diagram of the system of the present invention, and in

20 particular illustrates the keypad class diagram, keyboard user class diagram, user class diagram and prompts class diagram. As shown, the keypad permits entry of information through push buttons on the keypad. The user class is an aggregation of user information, which can include user preferences, user services, and user account information. Other classes of user information are possible and can be related to the users, households they live in, or the services provided to

25 the users. Also illustrated in FIG. 4 is the general class of prompts, which can be audio, video, text, or multimedia prompts. The prompts are in a specified language and can contain information regarding themselves including the duration of the prompt, and the options. The options are representative of the choices the user is presented, including menus based on use of the telephone keypad. The options can form the basis for interface classes which allow

30 sequential voice prompts or information files (prompts) to be retrieved and played.

The use case diagram shown in FIG. 1 and the class diagram shown in FIG. 4 are based on the use of Unified Modeling Language (UML) which allows the system to be described in a

manner such that it can be implemented using a number of programming languages, either procedural or object-oriented. In particular, class diagrams map to object-oriented languages including Java, C++, Smalltalk, Eiffel, Ada, ObjectPascal, Forte, and Visual Basic. Other languages can be used to implement the invention and are well known to those skilled in the

5 art.

Although this invention has been illustrated by reference to specific embodiments, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various changes and modifications may be made which clearly fall within the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1 **1.** A system for providing locally generated prompts/announcements in a
 2 telecommunications network, the system comprising
 3 a centralized service for storing a plurality of prompt/announcement files, said plurality
 4 including various types of files;
 5 a telecommunications device located in close proximity to the user, said
 6 telecommunications device for downloading predetermined files from said plurality of files;
 7 and
 8 at least one communication device for interacting with said telecommunications device
 9 and selecting the predetermined ones of said files to be downloaded.

1 **2.** The system as defined in claim 1 wherein the at least one communication device
 2 comprises a telephone with a keypad for selecting prompt/announcement files.

1 **3.** The system as defined in claim 2 wherein the selected prompt/announcement files
 2 comprise voice files.

1 **4.** The system as defined in claim 1 wherein the at least one communication device
 2 comprises a computer with a keyboard for selecting prompt/announcement files.

1 **5.** The system as defined in claim 4 wherein the selected files are chosen from a group
 2 consisting of text files, video files and multimedia files.

1 **6.** The system as defined in claim 1 wherein the at least one communication device
 2 comprises
 3 a telephone with a keypad for selecting a first subset of files; and
 4 a computer with a keyboard for selecting a second subset of files.

1 **7.** The system as defined in claim 6 wherein the first subset of files comprises voice
 2 files and the second subset of files comprises files chosen from a group consisting of text files,
 3 video files and multimedia files.

1 **8.** The system as defined in claim 1 wherein the network comprises an HFC network
2 and the telecommunications device comprises a communications gateway.

1 **9.** A method of providing client-side prompt/announcement files for use by a
2 subscriber on a local telecommunications device from a plurality of prompt/announcement
3 files stored on a centralized server, the method comprising the steps of:
4 a) determining subscriber characteristics;
5 b) determining the type of user entry device;
6 c) downloading a subset of prompt/announcement files from the centralized server to
7 the local telecommunications device based upon the determined subscriber characteristics and
8 the type of user entry device.

1 **10.** The method as defined in claim 9 wherein in performing step a), the subscriber
2 characteristics include language, location and subscribed-to telecommunication services.

1 **11.** The method as defined in claim 9 wherein in performing step b), the user entry
2 device comprises a telephone with a keypad and in performing step c), voice files are
3 downloaded.

1 **12.** The method as defined in claim 9 wherein in performing step b), the user entry
2 device comprises a computer with a keyboard and in performing step c), the files are chosen
3 from a group consisting of text files, video files and multimedia files are downloaded.

Abstract of the Disclosure

A method and system for providing locally generated prompts/announcements from a centralized source is presented in which voice and text files can be downloaded from a centralized server to a client device. The client device can include a telecommunications gateway which supports telephony services provided over a Hybrid Fiber Coaxial (HFC) network. By downloading files which are appropriate for the user, the client side receives and stores an appropriate subset of the prompt/announcement files available on the server.

10

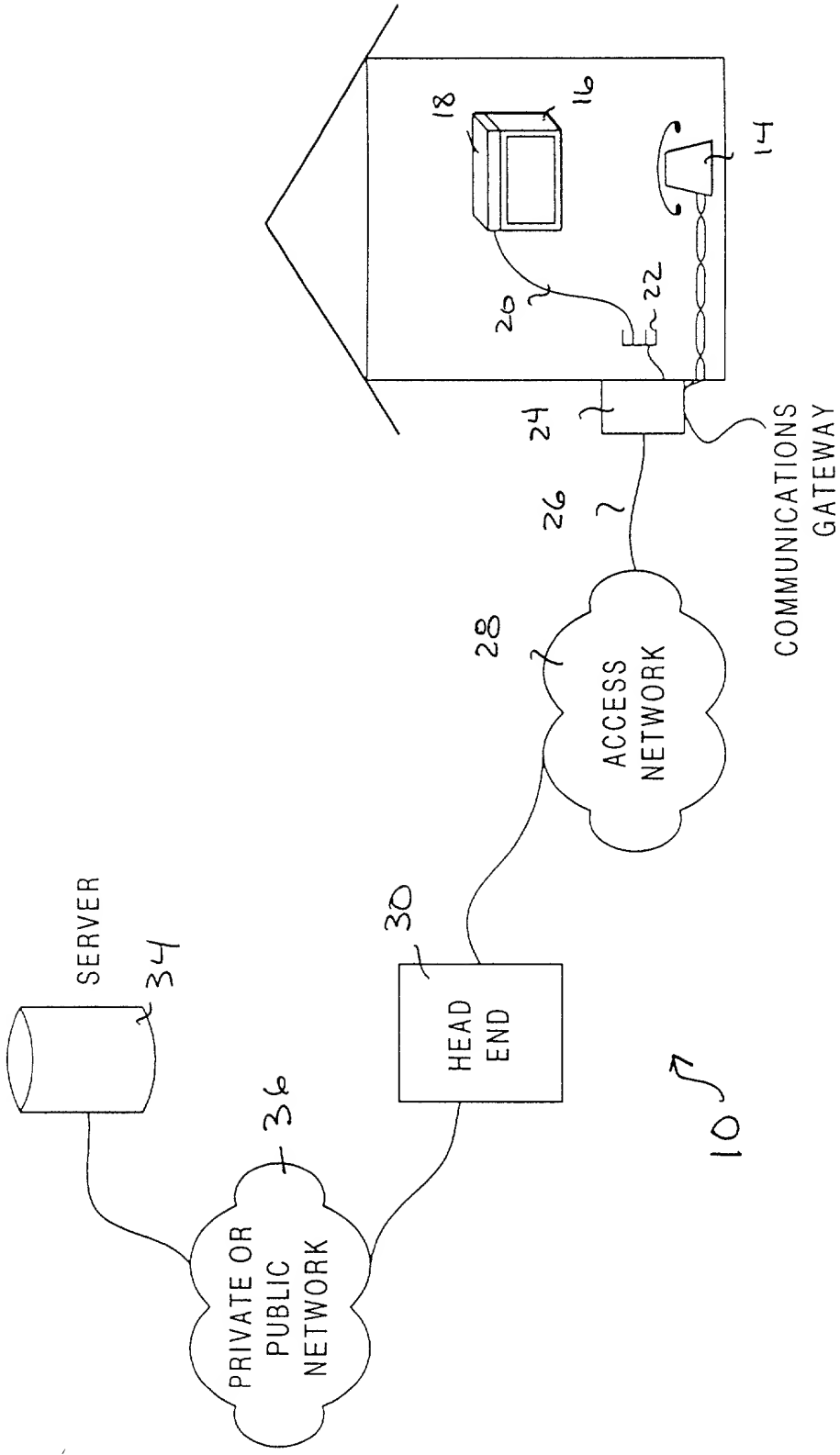


FIG. 1

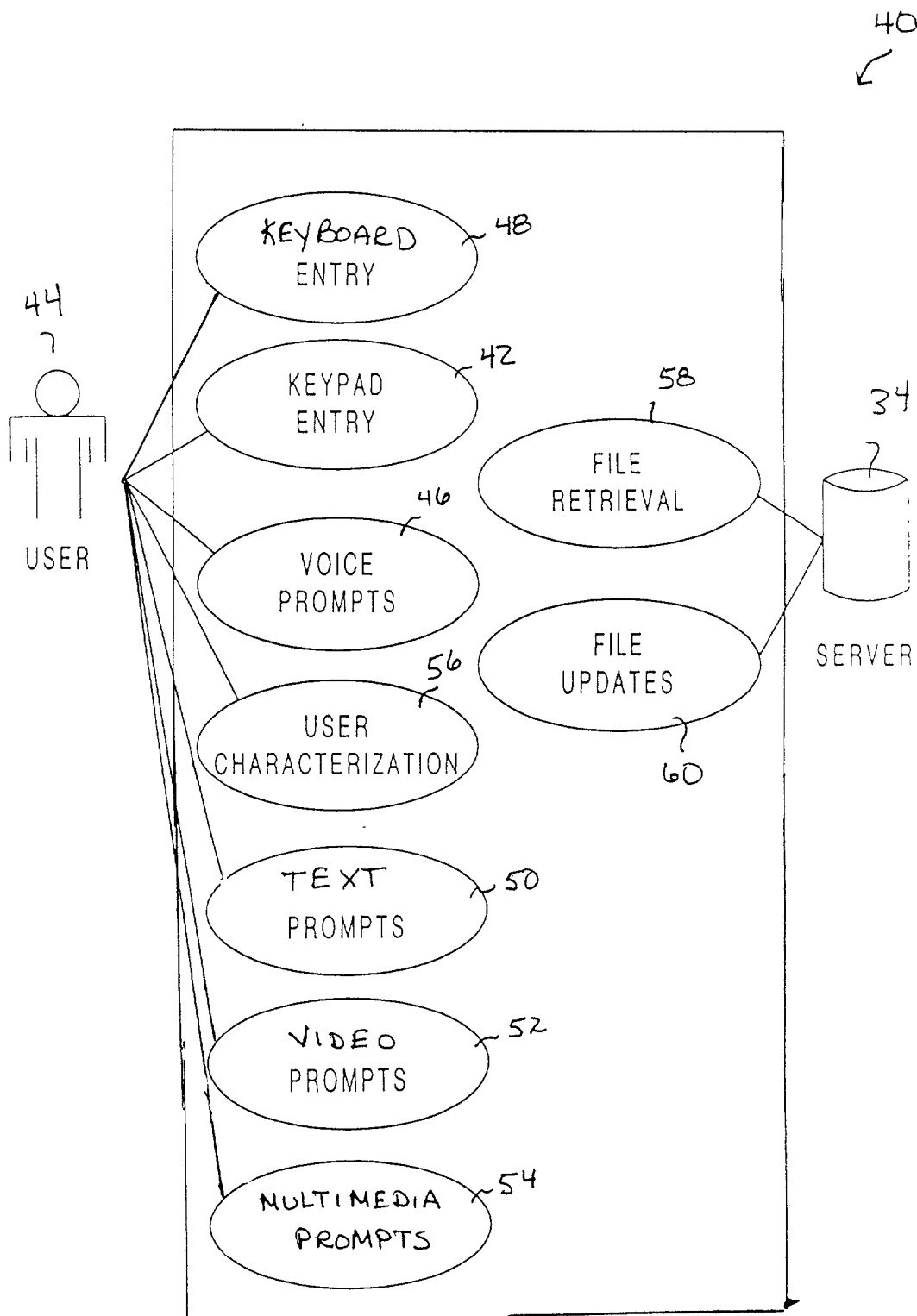


FIG. 2

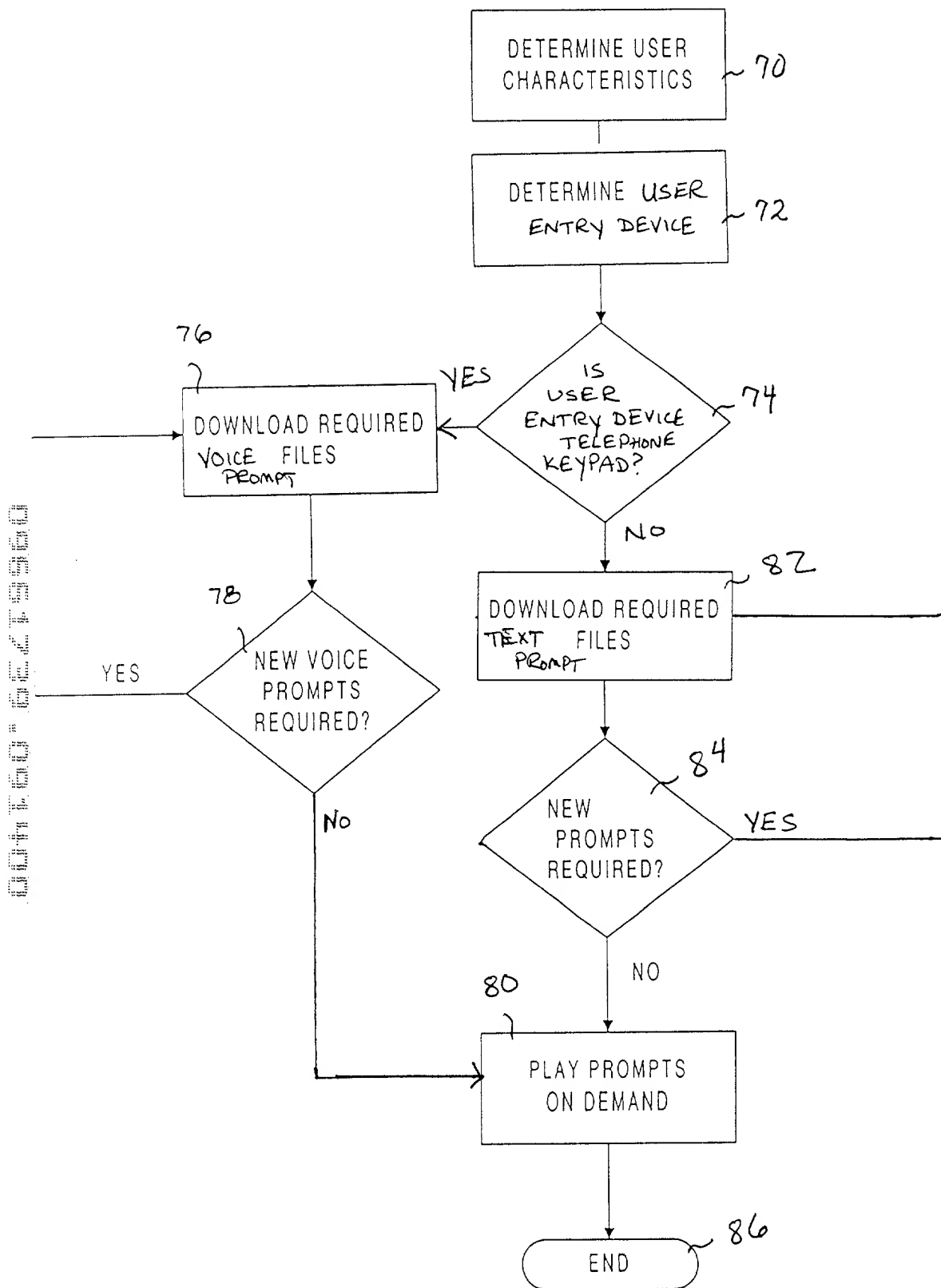


FIG. 3

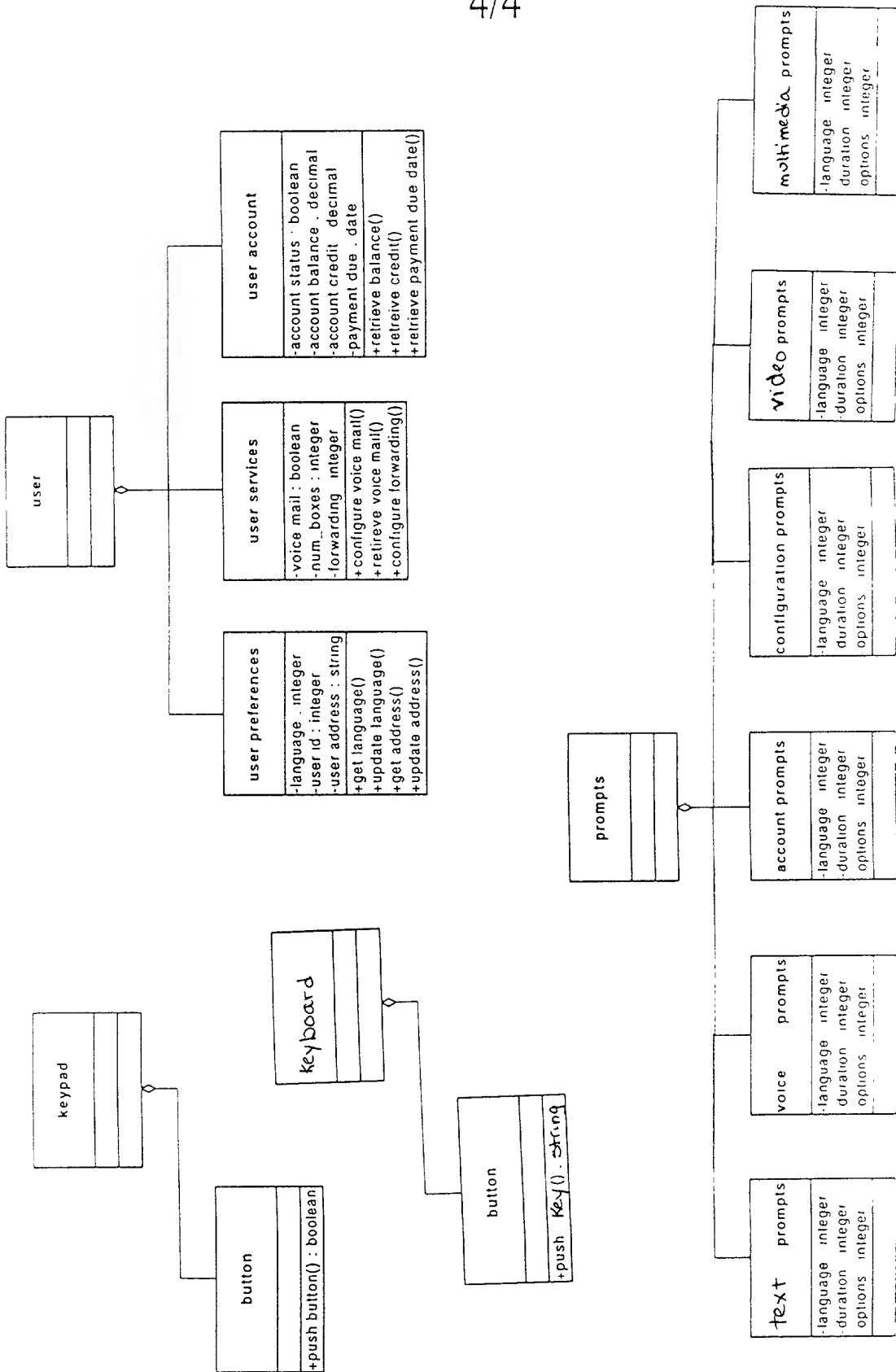


FIG. 4

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Declaration and Power of Attorney

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code 119(e) of any United States provisional application identified below:

Provisional Application No. **60/156,248**, filed on **September 27, 1999**.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **Provisioning Of Locally-Generated Prompts From A Central Source** the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by an amendment, if any, specifically referred to in this oath or declaration.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

None

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

None

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute said application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and the transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Wendy W. Koba -Reg. No. 30509 (610-346-7112)


All written communication should be addressed to:

Wendy W. Koba, Esq.

PO Box 556

Springtown, Pennsylvania 18081

Full Name of sole inventor: Jeffrey D. Ollis

Inventor's signature  Date 13 Sept 2000

Residence: Harleysville, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania

Citizenship: United States of America

Post Office Address: 111 Newport Court

Harleysville, Pennsylvania 19438

001160-6627990